APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
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EXAMINER
WASYLCHAK, S

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2164	

DATE MAILED:
11/08/01

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Office Action Summary

	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	09/287296	Yun et al
	Examiner	Group Art Unit
	WASYLCHAK	2164

—*The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet beneath the correspondence address*—

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE __3__ MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, such period shall, by default, expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication .
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).

Status

- ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on __4/7/99__ .
- ☐ This action is **FINAL.**
- ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, **prosecution as to the merits is closed** in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle,* 1935 C.D. 1 1; 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- ☒ Claim(s) _____ is/are pending in the application.
   - Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- ☒ Claim(s) __1-22__ _____ is/are rejected.
- ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction or election requirement.

Application Papers

- ☐ See the attached Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948.
- ☐ The proposed drawing correction, filed on _____ is ☐ approved ☐ disapproved.
- ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are objected to by the Examiner.
- ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119 (a)-(d)

- ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 11 9(a)-(d).
   - ☐ All ☐ Some* ☐ None of the CERTIFIED copies of the priority documents have been
   - ☐ received.
   - ☐ received in Application No. (Series Code/Serial Number) _____ .
   - ☐ received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 1 7.2(a)).
   - *Certified copies not received: _____ .

Attachment(s)

- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s), PTO-1449, Paper No(s). _____
- ☒ Notice of Reference(s) Cited, PTO-892
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948
- ☐ Interview Summary, PTO-413
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152
- ☐ Other _____

Office Action Summary

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1.   The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all

obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

2.   Claims 1-22 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the

article by Lucie Kim: "WebData.com Debuts Online Shopping Price Comparisons."

As per claim 1,

> A method of providing information about a product, the product available for
>
> purchase from a plurality of sources, the method comprising:
>
>   -receiving a selection of a product category from a predefined set of
>
> product categories using information about the product; / para. 1("ExperTelligence,
>
> Inc....), 3, 5, 6, 7, 9
>
>   -accessing a list of extraction parameters for the product category; / para.
>
> 1, 2
>
>   -receiving a selection of at least one extraction parameter in the list of
>
> extraction parameters; / para. 1, 2

-for each of the plurality of sources, creating a corresponding program including identifying a corresponding web site, the corresponding web site selling the product and / para.1,2

-providing a tool for creating the corresponding program to extract data from the web site using the at least one extraction parameter; / para. 6

-receiving a connection from a client, the connection including a value for the at least one extraction parameter; and / para. 1, 3

-for each of the plurality of sources in the product category, providing product information for the product using the value for the at least one extraction parameter and the corresponding program. / para. 1, 3, 5, 6, 7, 9. The reference fails to teach the feature of a corresponding program.

Official notice is taken that this feature is old and well known in the e-commerce art and / or retail art. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of applicant's invention to implement this feature for the advantage of clarity by segregating pertinent user information for subsequent analysis.

As per claim 2,

The method of claim 1, wherein the providing the tool for creating the corresponding program to extract data from the corresponding web site using the at least one extraction parameter further comprises providing a graphical user interface tool for developing the corresponding program, the graphical user interface tool including a web browser. / para. 3

As per claim 3,

The method of claim 2, wherein the graphical user interface tool further includes first tool, the first tool for developing an extraction pattern, the extraction pattern identifying a plurality of portions of a document on the corresponding web site. / para. 1,3, 4, 5, 6. The reference fails to teach the feature of a gui.

Official notice is taken that this feature is old and well known in the e-commerce art and / or retail art. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of applicant's invention to implement this feature for the advantage of ease of use by segregating pertinent user information in picture form for subsequent analysis or decision.

As per claim 4,

The method of claim 3, wherein the graphical user interface tool further comprises:

-receiving a selection signal; / para. 6

-applying the extraction pattern to find a matching pattern in a document displayed in a source view in the web browser; / para. 4, 6, 9

-displaying a rendered version of the matching pattern in a window. / para. 4, 6, 9

As per claim 5,

The method of claim 3, wherein the graphical user interface tool further includes a plurality of predefined extraction patterns. / para. 4, 6, 9.

As per claim 6,

The method of claim 5, wherein the plurality of predefined extraction patterns include at least one of an extraction pattern for matching a hyperlink, an extraction pattern for

matching a form, and an extraction pattern for matching a price. / para. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6,

8, 9

As per claim 7,

     The method of claim 3, wherein the graphical user interface tool further

comprises:

     -identifying a form on the document on the corresponding web site; / para. 6,

9(search box is a type of form)

     -creating a step in the corresponding program, the step to submit the form

without retrieving the document; / para. 6, 9

     -generating a plurality of parameters associated with the step, the plurality of

     parameters corresponding to inputs in the form; and / para. 4, 6, 7, 9

     -identifying at least one of the plurality of parameters with the at least one

     extraction parameter. / para. 4, 6, 7

As per claim 8,

The method of claim 1, wherein the providing the tool for creating the

     corresponding program to extract data from the corresponding web site using the

at least one extraction parameter further comprises defining a plurality of steps wherein

at least one step in the plurality of steps interacts with the corresponding web site and

operates on the results of the interaction. / para. 4, 5, 6, 7

As per claim 9,

The method of claim 8, wherein the defining the plurality of steps comprises for

each of the plurality of steps, receiving a selection of an extraction command from a

predetermined list of extraction commands. / para. 3, 4, 6, 7

As per claim 10,

The method of claim 9, wherein the predetermined list of extraction commands

includes extraction commands for retrieving multiple matches of an extraction pattern

from a document. / para. 3, 5, 9

As per claim 11,

The method of claim 9, wherein the predetermined list of extraction commands includes

extraction commands for extracting data from a first document and a second document,

the first document including a reference to the second document. / para. 6

As per claim 12.

The method of claim 9, wherein at least one step in the plurality of steps includes a

test condition comprising a logical test for at least one corresponding argument and a

first step in the plurality of steps, and wherein the program continues executing at the

first step if the logical test is satisfied. / para. 1(minimum price is a test condition)

As per claim 13,

The method of claim 12, wherein the at least one corresponding argument includes

an extraction pattern. / para. 1, 5, 6

As per claim 14,

The method of claim 12, wherein the test condition further comprises a result code,

wherein the program returns an error if the result code is a web site changed result

code. / para. 7. The reference fails to teach the feature of an error result.

Official notice is taken that this feature is old and well known in

the e-commerce art and / or retail art. It would have been obvious to one of

ordinary skill in the art at the time of applicant's invention to implement this

feature for the advantage of feedback of a negative result to suggest a retry or abortion.

As per claim 15,

The method of claim 12, wherein the test condition further comprises a result code,

wherein the program returns an error if the result code is a no matching products result

code. / para. 7. The reference fails to teach the feature of an error result.

Official notice is taken that this feature is old and well known in

the e-commerce art and / or retail art. It would have been obvious to one of

ordinary skill in the art at the time of applicant's invention to implement this

feature for the advantage of feedback of a negative result to suggest a retry or abortion.

As per claim 16,

The method of claim 9, wherein the predetermined list of extraction commands

includes extraction commands for segmenting a document into a plurality of units, each

of the plurality of units matching an extraction pattern. / para. 6

As per claim 17,

The method of claim 16, wherein at least one step in the plurality of steps uses an

extraction command to segment a document into a plurality of units, and wherein the

step further includes a test condition, the test condition comprising a logical test and at

least one argument, and wherein for each of the plurality of units, the logical test is

computed with the at least one argument, and the unit is removed from the plurality of

units if the logical test is not satisfied with the at least one argument. / para. 2, 4, 5

As per claim 18,

An apparatus for providing information about a product, the product available for

purchase from a plurality of sources, the apparatus comprising:

    -means for receiving a selection of a product category from a predefined set of

        product categories using information about the product; / para.

1("ExperTelligence, Inc....), 3, 5, 6, 7, 9

    -means for accessing a list of extraction parameters for the product category; /

para. 1, 2

    -means for receiving a selection of at least one extraction parameter in the list of

    extraction parameters; / para. 1, 2

    -means for creating a corresponding program for each of the plurality of sources,

    the means for creating a corresponding program for each of the plurality of

    sources including / para. 1, 2

    -means for identifying a corresponding web site, the corresponding web site

    selling the product and / para. 1, 2

    -means for creating the corresponding program to extract data from the web site

    using the at least one extraction parameter; / para. 6

    -means for receiving a connection from a client, the connection including a value

    for the at least one extraction parameter; and / para. 1, 3, 6

    -means for providing product information for the product from each of the plurality

of sources using the value for the at least one extraction parameter and the

corresponding program. / para. 1, 3, 5, 6, 7, 9. The reference

fails to teach the feature of a corresponding program.

Official notice is taken that this feature is old and well known in

the e-commerce art and / or retail art. It would have been obvious to one of

ordinary skill in the art at the time of applicant's invention to implement this

feature for the advantage of clarity by segregating pertinent user information for

subsequent analysis.

As per claim 19,

The apparatus of claim 18, wherein the means for creating a corresponding

program to extract data from the web site includes means for selecting an instruction

from a predetermined list of instructions. / para. 1, 2, 4, 6, 9

As per claim 20,

The apparatus of claim 18, wherein the means for creating a corresponding program to

extract data from the web site includes means for developing an extractor pattern in a

web browser. / para. 1, 2, 3

As per claim 21,

A computer data signal embodied in a carrier wave comprising:

-a computer program for developing descriptions of data of interest a set of

instructions for developing an extractor pattern interactively in a web

page; / para. 1,2

-a set of instructions for receiving a selection of an instruction from a predefined

set of instructions for inclusion of the instruction in the description of data

of interest; / para. 4, 6, 9

-a set of instructions for associating the extractor pattern with the instruction;

and / para. 4, 6, 9

-a set of instructions for testing the instruction using the extractor pattern and

the contents of a buffer; / para. 1, 2, 4, 5, 7. para. 1, 3, 5, 6, 7, 9. The reference

fails to teach the feature of a buffer.

Official notice is taken that this feature is old and well known in

the e-commerce art and / or computer art. It would have been obvious to one of

ordinary skill in the art at the time of applicant's invention to implement this

feature for the advantage of temporarily storing data waiting to be accessed to avoid

overflow.

As per claim 22,

An apparatus comprising a computer, the computer comprising a processor and

a memory, the memory including a plurality of descriptions of data of interest, the

processor running a program the program accepting an input and generating an output,

the input identifying a subset of the plurality of descriptions of data of interest and a

plurality of values for a plurality of extraction parameters, the output including data of

interest retrieved from a plurality of web sites corresponding to data of interest matching

the plurality of values for the plurality of extraction parameters at each of the plurality of

web sites corresponding to the subset of plurality of descriptions of data of interest. /

para. 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9. The reference fails to teach the feature of computer
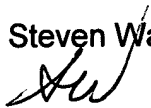
components.

Official notice is taken that this feature is old and well known in

the e-commerce art and / or computer art. It would have been obvious to one of

ordinary skill in the art at the time of applicant's invention to implement these

features for the advantage of compatibility with network systems.

This action is **NON-FINAL**. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier

communications from the examiner should be directed to Steven R. Wasylchak whose

telephone number is (703) 308-2848. The examiner can normally be reached on

Monday-Friday from 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's

supervisor, Vincent Millin, can be reached at (703) 308-1065. The fax number for Art

Unit 2164 is (703) 308-1396.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or

proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is

(703) 305-3900.

Steven Wasylchak

10/2/01

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